Message Text

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51

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 ACDA-05 NIC-01 OMB-01 BIB-01

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NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /075 W

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R 181030Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5171

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

CINCLANT

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

COMICEDEFOR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PFOR IC UR

SUBJECT: FONMIN'S MOSCOW VISIT

1. IN COURSE OF GENERAL DISCUSSION ON FEB. 16 OF GOI SCHEDULING OVER NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS, CHARGE HAD OPPORTUNITY TO ASK MFA SECGEN PETUR THORSTEINSSON WHETHER VISIT TO MOSCOW BY FONMIN AGUSTSSON HAD BEEN RESET. WILL BE RECALLED VISIT WAS SCHEDULED FOR THIS MONTH BUT WAS POSTPONED BECAUSE OF GROMYKO TRIP TO MID-EAST. THORSTEINSSON SAID IT WAS TENTATIVELY SET FOR EARLY APRIL BUT EXACT DATES REMAIN TO BE AGREED. SAID FONMIN HAD BEEN "VERY ANNOYED" OVER POSTPONEMENT, BECAUSE WHILE HE UNDERSTOOD REASON FOR IT, HE WAS OFFENDED AT THE WAY IT WAS DONE. IT SEEMS GOI LEARNED ABOUT IT FROM NEWSPAPERS AND WHEN SOVIETS THEN TOLD THEM, IT WAS DONE IN MANNER WHICH ICELANDERS CONSIDERED BRUSQUE AND SLIGHTING.

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2. LATER SAME DAY IN COURSE OF GENERAL CONVERSATION ABOUT TRAVEL

AND VACATIONS, CHARGE ASKED FONMIN IF HE STILL PLANNED TO VISIT MOSCOW. AGUSTSSON REPEATED APRIL TIMING BUT SAID IN TONE WHICH CLEARLY INDICATED STRONG FEELING, "IF IT GETS POSTPONED AGAIN, I WON'T GO. AFTER ALL, I HAVE ENOUGH INVITATIONS TO OTHER COUNTRIES AND DON'T NEED THAT ONE."

MARTIN

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